

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY: AF/C:DLCARDWELL

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P 132048Z JAN 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL TORONTO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

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REF: STATE 6813

FOLLOWING REPEAT BANGUI 50 ACTION SECSTATE DTD 12 JAN

QTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGUI 0050

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, EMIN, CT

SUBJECT: GOCAR CANCELLATION OF SCED TAX BENEFITS

REF: BANGUI 1896

1. IN VIEW OF OVERRIDING IMPORTANCE OF SECURING
GOCAR SUPPORT ON ANGOLA (BANGUI 1922, 0001, 0026, 0027)
AS WELL AS ON MOBIL TEXACO NATIONALIZATIONS ISSUE
(BANGUI 1923), WE CONSIDERED AGENDA TOO CROWDED AT MEETINGS
WITH PRESIDENT BOKASSA ON DECEMBER 30 AND JANUARY 6 TO INCLUDE
ADDITIONAL AND CONSIDERABLY MORE RECENT ISSUE OF SCED
(BANGUI 1896). IT HAS ALSO BEEN OUR JUDGMENT THAT
THIS PROBLEM CAN ONLY BE SATISFACTORILY RESOLVED WITH
THE PRESIDENT HIMSELF AND THAT IT WOULD THEREFORE NOT
BE PRODUCTIVE TO APPROACH APPROPRIATE MINISTER ON THIS
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QUESTION.

2. HOWEVER EXPECT HAVE OPPORTUNITY RAISE SCED ISSUE WITH BOKASSA EITHER DURING OFFICE CALL OR AT SMALL SOCIAL EVENT TO WHICH PRESIDENT HAS INVITED CHARGE AT PRESIDENTIAL FARM AT BOBANGUI BETWEEN BOKASSA'S RETURN JANUARY 13 FROM ADDIS OAU SUMMIT AND HIS DEPARTURE JANUARY 19 ON STATE VISIT TO UGANDA. ALTHOUGH OBVIOUSLY CAN PROMISE NO MIRACLES WE DO THINK WITH PROPER APPROACH AND TIMING THAT PRESIDENT WILL BE AMENABLE TO RESCINDING DECREE ONCE IT IS MADE CLEAR TO HIM NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF THIS ACTION ON EXISTING AND PROSPECTIVE AMERICAN INVESTMENT IN CAR.

3. MET WITH OELBAUM, DIRECTOR OF DDI OPERATIONS IN CAR ON HIS RETURN FROM LIBREVILLE JANUARY 9 AND BRIEFED HIM ON SCENARIO. HE AGREED THAT EMBASSY SHOULD APPROACH BOKASSA BEFORE DDI PRESIDENT BERT JOLIS WHO TO VISIT JANUARY 15-25.

4. UNDERSTAND JOLIS CALLED ONAF/C DIRECTOR BUCHANAN JANUARY 9. HOPE FOREGOING WILL BE USEFUL IN ANY FOLLOW-UP TO THAT CONVERSATION. SWING UNQTE KISSINGER

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